



Kentucky Agricultural Statistics Service
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KENTUCKY WEEKLY CROP & WEATHER REPORT



Prepared in Cooperation with:
Univ. of Ky - Agr'l Weather Center
U.S. Dept. of Commerce - NOAA
Kentucky Department of Agriculture
Cooperative Extension Service

LELAND E. BROWN, State Statistician

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NRC 4-00

AGRICULTURAL NEWS: Most agriculture activities of the week were affected by the weather. Cooler temperatures and light rain slowed fieldwork, damaged some fruit and other crops and slowed development of others. The week began with below normal temperatures, but returned to above normal by week's end. The temperature averaged 55 degrees for the week 1 degree below normal. Precipitation averaged 0.6 inches for the week which was 0.4 inches below normal. Mild long term drought conditions still linger in the State with three to five inches of rainfall needed to return to normal. **Topsoil moisture**, as of Friday, April 14 was rated 3 percent short, 84 percent adequate, and 13 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture**, was rated 4 percent very short, 18 percent short, 71 percent adequate, and 7 percent surplus. **Days suitable for fieldwork** averaged 3.0 out of a possible 6 days. Primary farming activities included fertilizing and preparing fields, and spraying burn down for no-till corn planting. Renovation of hay and pasture acreage continue with both seeding and fertilizing required to recover from last summer's severe drought. Preparing machinery for planting, and working cattle and fencing projects were other activities reported for the week.

TOBACCO: Seeding of float and conventional tobacco beds advanced to 92 percent complete by Sunday, April 16. This compares with 90 percent in 1999, and 89 percent for the five year average. The number of beds having plants up was 68 percent. This compares with 63 percent last year, and 56 percent for the five year average. The

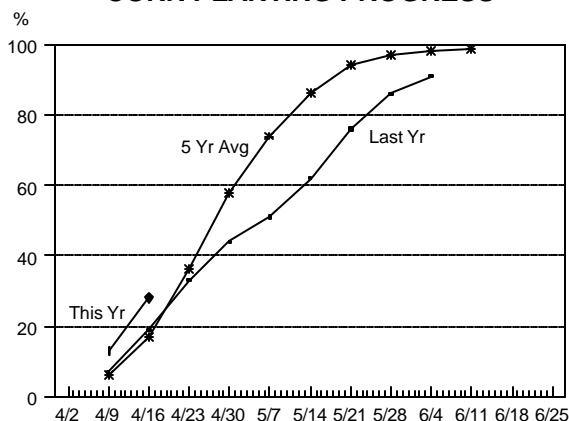
condition of tobacco plants in beds was rated 2 percent poor, 18 percent fair, 63 percent good, and 17 percent excellent.

CORN: Planting was slowed across most of the State as the cool temperatures and rain slowed soil warm up. Planted corn was slow to emerge as the same factors were detrimental to germination. Planting was reported as 28 percent complete as of Sunday, April 16, compared to 17 percent last year and 19 percent for the five year average.

SMALL GRAINS & LEGUMES: There has been minimal damage to the wheat crop this spring because of weather conditions, but last weeks frost has caused concern in some areas of the State. As of Friday, April 14 wheat condition was rated as 1 percent poor, 13 percent fair, 60 percent good, and 26 percent excellent. Barley condition was rated as 1 percent very poor, 1 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 17 percent excellent.

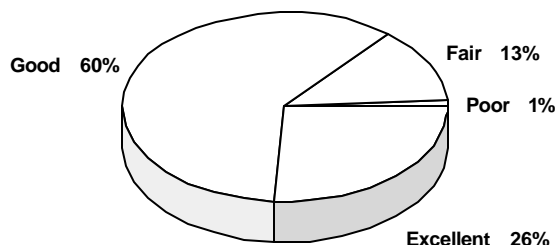
OTHER CROPS: Pasture condition was rated as 1 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 26 percent fair, 53 percent good, and 15 percent excellent. The average height of alfalfa as of Friday, April 14 was 11 inches. Only a few reports of alfalfa weevil have been received. Peach and pear trees are mostly past bloom with moderate damage reported to the peach crop as a result of the frost the State received. Reports indicate that apple bloom is nearing completion. Apple bloom development was slowed with some reports of light frost damage to the apple blossoms.

CORN PLANTING PROGRESS



WHEAT CONDITION

(Apr.17)



KENTUCKY CROP PROGRESS
WEEK ENDING APRIL 16, 2000
WITH COMPARISONS

Crop Stage	This Week	Previous Year	5-Yr. Avg.	Previous Week KY	U.S.
Percentage					
Tobacco Transplants					
Seeded	92	90	89	86	NA
Emerged	68	63	56	52	NA
Corn					
Planted	28	17	19	13	4

(NA) Data Not Available.

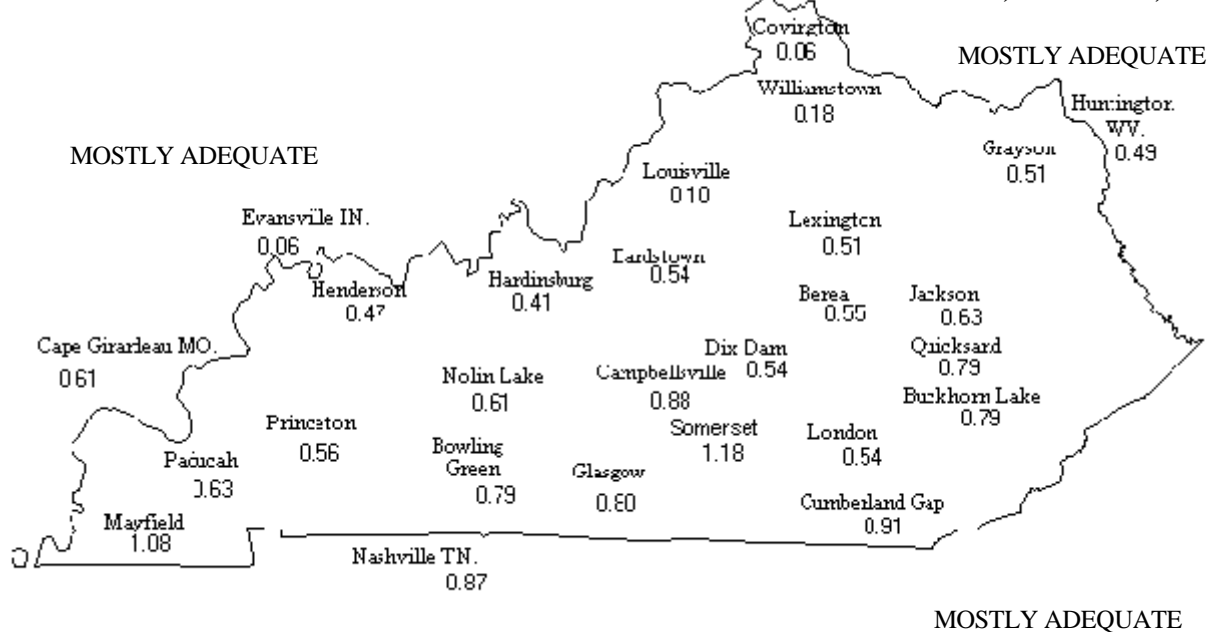
SOIL MOISTURE
WEEK ENDING APRIL 14, 2000
WITH COMPARISONS

	This Week	Previous Week
Percentage		
TOPSOIL		
Very Short	0	1
Short	3	7
Adequate	84	75
Surplus	13	17
SUBSOIL		
Very Short	4	4
Short	18	25
Adequate	71	64
Surplus	7	7

KENTUCKY CROP CONDITIONS (Percent)

CROP	WEEK ENDING APRIL 14, 2000					WEEK ENDING APRIL 7, 2000				
	VERY POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCELLENT	VERY POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCELLENT
Wheat	0	1	13	60	26	0	1	10	67	22
Barley	1	1	31	50	17	0	2	23	64	11
Pasture	1	5	26	53	15	2	12	35	45	6
Tobacco Transplants	0	2	18	63	17	-	-	-	-	-

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 7:00 P.M.
TOPSOIL MOISTURE DELINEATION FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 2000



KENTUCKY WEATHER SUMMARY, APRIL 10 - 16, 2000:

SLIGHTLY BELOW NORMAL TEMPERATURES AND BELOW NORMAL RAINFALL:

Cooler temperatures dominated the first half of the workweek but temperatures in the 70's occurred on Friday and into the weekend. One rainfall event on Tuesday/Wednesday provided half inch rainfall totals. The April 10th, Palmer Drought Index indicated all of Kentucky in MILD hydrologic drought with the State still needing 3 to 5 inches of above normal rainfall to end the long-term drought. The Crop Moisture Index indicated surplus soil moisture conditions for agricultural purposes.

Temperatures for the period averaged 55 degrees across the State which was 1 degree BELOW NORMAL and 3 degrees warmer than the previous week. High temperatures averaged from 66 in the West to 67 in the East. Departure from normal high temperatures ranged from 5 degrees BELOW NORMAL in the West to 2 degrees ABOVE NORMAL in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 44 degrees in the West to 44 degrees in the East. Departure from normal low temperature ranged from 1 degree BELOW NORMAL in the West to NEAR NORMAL in the East. Extreme high temperatures were in the mid 70's and extreme lows ranged in the low to mid 30's. Alfalfa Weevil degree day accumulations since Jan. 1, ranged from 324 at Covington to over 500 at Paducah. Rainfall for the past week totaled 0.55 inches Statewide which was 0.43 inches BELOW NORMAL. Rainfall totals by climate division, West 0.57 inches, Central 0.54 inches, Bluegrass 0.37 inches and East 0.73 inches, which was 0.50, 0.46, 0.57 and 0.19 inches respectively BELOW NORMAL. By station, rainfall totals ranged from a low of 0.06 inches at Covington to a high of 1.18 inches at Somerset.

Tom Priddy

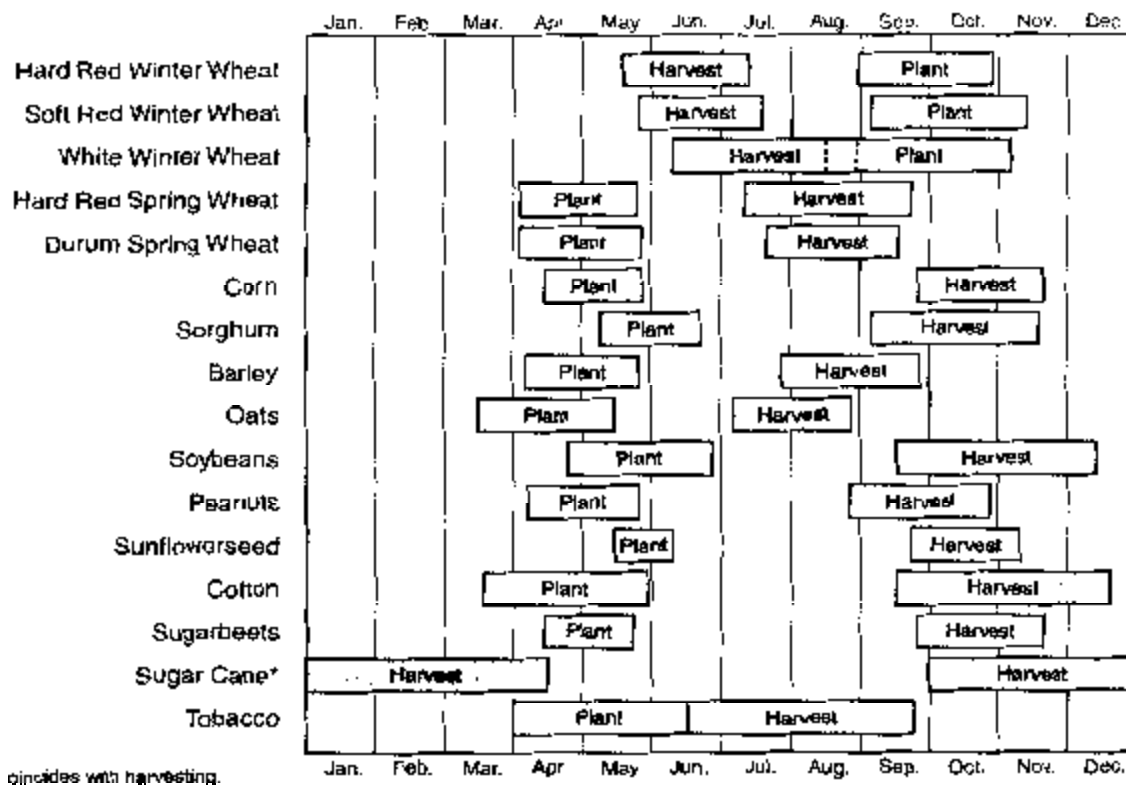
KENTUCKY TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL

FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 7:00 P.M.

Weather Station	Precipitation		Deviation From Normal Since Jan. 1	Temperatures					Air Temp.
	Last Week	Since Jan 1		Soil 4 In. High	Grass Low	High	Air Low	Wkly. Avg	Deviation From Normal
	(Inches)			(Degrees Fahrenheit)					
Bardstown	0.54	14.65	+2.11	63	49	73	33	54.1	-2
Berea	0.55	8.97	-3.35	61	51	75	37	55.7	+1
Bowling Green	0.79	11.78	-3.57	--	--	73	36	54.6	-1
Bristol	0.50	11.58	-0.55	--	--	73	30	54.1	-1
Buckhorn Lake	0.79	10.65	-2.82	--	--	76	31	55.4	+1
Cape Girardeau	0.61	13.10	-0.51	--	--	71	34	53.7	-5
Campbellsville	0.88	13.06	-2.00	59	50	74	35	55.1	-1
Covington	0.06	16.44	+4.92	--	--	75	34	52.6	-2
Cumberland Gap	0.91	13.66	-1.90	65	55	77	32	56.6	+2
Dix Dam	0.54	16.68	+3.71	--	--	73	35	54.7	+0
Evansville	0.06	16.40	+3.77	--	--	71	33	53.6	-5
Glasgow	0.80	13.88	-1.66	55	49	74	36	56.4	+0
Grayson	0.51	11.92	+0.82	61	52	75	35	54.9	+0
Hardinsburg	0.41	16.91	+2.64	61	50	73	32	55.7	-0
Henderson	0.47	17.11	+3.96	60	52	73	35	55.0	-3
Huntington	0.49	11.91	+0.88	--	--	76	35	55.0	+0
Jackson	0.63	10.93	-2.49	--	--	76	35	56.3	+2
Lexington	0.51	15.37	+2.83	--	--	73	36	53.9	-1
London	0.54	11.92	-1.67	--	--	75	35	54.6	+0
Louisville	0.10	18.81	+5.73	--	--	76	35	55.3	-1
Mayfield	1.08	14.08	-2.39	61	53	74	38	56.1	-2
Nashville	0.87	13.97	-0.62	--	--	76	36	55.4	-1
Nolin Lake	0.61	14.10	-0.34	--	--	73	35	55.5	-1
Paducah	0.63	17.01	+2.25	58	53	71	37	55.6	-3
Princeton	0.56	17.74	+2.01	61	40	75	35	56.9	-1
Quicksand	0.79	10.47	-2.95	59	54	76	31	55.2	+1
Somerset	1.18	14.54	+0.13	63	53	74	28	54.2	-0
Spindletop	0.39	14.82	+2.28	60	46	75	34	53.6	-1
Williamstown	0.18	15.47	+3.25	63	48	77	34	55.5	+1

The above information is provided by Tom Priddy, Kentucky Extension Agricultural Meteorologist, University of Kentucky Agr'l Weather Center (606)257-3000 ext 245. E-mail: tpriddy@ca.uky.edu Additional Ky weather data available on Internet at: <http://www.wagwx.ca.uky.edu/>

PLANTING AND HARVESTING CALENDAR FOR MOST MAJOR U.S. CROP AREAS ^{1/}



* Planting coincides with harvesting.

^{1/} Represents areas where production is concentrated, but not full spectrum of planting and harvesting periods for each crop.

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